

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, delete the title "Description"

Page 1, before line 7, the paragraph beginning with "The invention relates" insert the following titles and paragraph:

– PRIORITY CLAIM

This is a U.S. national stage of application No. PCT/EP2005/002660, filed on 12 March 2005. Priority is claimed on the following application(s): Country: Germany, Application No.: 10 2004 012 950.9, Filed: 17 March 2004, the content of which is/are incorporated here by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The invention relates to a high-pressure pump piston/cylinder unit, ~~in particular~~ of an injection pump for a common rail fuel injection system of an internal combustion engine, ~~in which the~~ piston/cylinder unit includes a housing with a pump cylinder ~~having~~ and a piston which oscillates therein ~~is provided in a housing~~, the piston ~~being~~ having one end operatively connected on one end side to a controlled drive, ~~in order~~ to vary a suction and compression stroke volume ~~on the other end side~~, ~~the head region, in~~ of the pump cylinder, ~~with the result so~~ so that the pressure of the fluid ~~which is sucked~~

drawn into the pump cylinder from a conveying flow inlet is increased by the stroke of the piston, ~~in order to make it~~ the fluid available to a further supply element, ~~in particular a fuel supply means or a common rail, by means of~~ via a conveying valve. --

Page 1, before line 22, the paragraph beginning with "Therefore, a", insert the following title:

-- 2. Description of the Prior Art --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

-- ~~Therefore, a~~ A high-pressure pump piston/cylinder unit, for example in the form of an injection pump, is part of the injection system which, ~~furthermore,~~ comprises injection lines and injection valves. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 27, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The injection pump has to fulfill a plurality of objects, such as conveying of ~~the~~ fuel at high pressure, metering of ~~the~~ an injection amount, injection of the fuel at the correct instant, or according to a predefined injection law. In conventional injection pumps, a camshaft which is driven by the engine lifts the injection piston, ~~possibly~~ for example, ~~by means of~~ a roller tappet. The lifting speed in a four-stroke engine is equal to half the crankshaft rotational speed, and the lifting speed in a two-stroke engine is equal to the entire crankshaft rotational speed; the injection piston performs a constant stroke. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

-- An injection pump of this type is described, for example, in ~~DE 199 19 430 C1~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,336,443. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 38, with the following amended paragraph:

-- High-pressure pumps of this type are also used, for example, in a fuel supply system according to ~~DE 101 57 135 A1~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,776,140. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 14, with the following amended paragraph:

-- In the above-described high-pressure pump piston/cylinder units, insertion bevels have also already been provided on the piston, but of unclear configuration in terms of their dimensions. Here, a conical shape having an amount of taper of a maximum of 30 μm over a length of approximately 25 mm is formed integrally on the pump piston in the head region. This reduction in the head is intended to prevent the head region of the pump piston striking the pump cylinder, but an effective countermeasure against the above-described axial offset cannot be achieved with this measure. --

Page 3, before line 26, the paragraph beginning with "It is the object", insert the following title:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 26, with the following amended paragraph:

-- ~~It is the~~ An object of the present invention is to provide ~~specify~~ a high-pressure pump piston/cylinder unit, in particular an injection pump for a common rail fuel injection system of an internal combustion engine, in which the risk of wear as a result of axial offset to a piston which is guided in a pump cylinder can be precluded. --

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 33, in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 36, with the following amended paragraph:

-- ~~As a result of the fact that~~ The object is met by a piston/cylinder unit having a pump cylinder and pump piston, wherein a centering cone is formed integrally on the pump piston on the head region, the maximum half diameter reduction ($1/2 \times [D-d]$) of said centering cone with respect to the diameter (D) of ~~the~~ a piston skirt of the pump piston being in a ratio of approximately 1:200, and the axial length (l) of said centering cone, that is to say the height of the centering truncated cone, being designed in relation to the entire axial length (L) of the piston skirt (including the centering cone) in a ratio (l:L) of approximately 1:6.6[.,]. This centering

cone centers the pump piston ~~is centered~~ on its center axis during the compression stroke, with the result that striking on the pump cylinder is prevented. The leakage during the build-up of pressure is guided uniformly between the pump piston and the pump cylinder, with the result that the temperature distribution ("hydraulic" heat is produced during compression of the fuel) is distributed uniformly over the circumference of the pump piston. As a result, the pump piston is not heated on one side and is therefore not deformed by the action of temperature. --

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 33, in its entirety.

Page 4, before line 36, the paragraph beginning with "The single figure", insert the following title:

-- **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS** --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 36, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The single figure ~~shows a~~ is a schematic sectional view of an injection pump of a common rail injection system, the pump piston of which is configured according to an embodiment of the present invention. --

Page 5, before line 1, the paragraph beginning with "A piston 2", insert the following title and paragraph:

-- **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS** --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

-- [[A]] In the Figure, a piston 2 is guided in with a pump cylinder 3 ~~is guided in~~ of a cylinder housing 1. The piston is moved in the conveying direction by a camshaft 4 which is driven by the engine, and is displaced back by a piston spring 5. The stroke of the piston 2 does not change, the piston 2 passes through the full stroke during each revolution of the camshaft 4 and performs a suction stroke and compression stroke. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

-- During the suction stroke, the piston 2 ~~sucks~~ draws fuel via the fuel inlet 9 out of the low-pressure space into the pump cylinder 3 or operating space 6. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 38, with the following amended paragraph:

-- A centering cone 20 (shown with dashed lines) which is subject to ~~clear~~ sharply defined dimensioning is formed integrally on the head region of the pump piston 2. --

Please amend the abstract as shown on a separate page attached thereto.

Page 8, amend the title as follows:

-- ~~Patent Claims~~ What is claimed is: --